



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

HACKL et al.

Serial No.: 10/713,640

Filed: November 13, 2003

Atty. File No.: 4764-32

For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE
LEACHING OF PRECIOUS METAL-
CONTAINING MATERIALS"

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

) Group Art Unit: 1754

) Examiner: Fiorito, J.

) Confirmation No.: 1650

) RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
) REQUIREMENT

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 ON <u>6/14/06</u></p> <p>SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.</p> <p>BY: <u>Christine Jacques</u></p>
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Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated May 5, 2006, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-22 and 24-28, drawn to a process; Claims 30-35, drawn to a process; and Claims 8, 14, 23, 29 and 36, drawn to a product were distinct inventions. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-22, and 24-28 (Group I) in this patent application. However, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue Claims 30-35 (Group II) and 8, 14, 23, 29 and 36 (Group II) in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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